THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) In so far as Central Government Hospitals, namely Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and LHMC & Associated Hospitals are concerned, X-ray are carried out after adjusting the exposure to the requirement of patients for optimal results. However, in some exceptional cases, X-rays are repeated due to movement by the patients during exposures. All X-rays carried out by trained technical staff and are viewed by experts in the field.

Lack of basic health care facilities for children

841. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that more than 50 per cent children under the age of 5 years in the country live without basic healthcare facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India ranks Twenty Seventh alongwith Ghana and Eritrea when it comes to providing basic healthcare to the children;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to ensure basic healthcare facilities to children in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) As per the National Family Health Survey 3, (NFHS 3), 2005-06, 95.7% of children have been breastfed, only 5.1% of children have received no vaccinations, 69% and 59.8% of children under the age of five years with symptoms of Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) and diarrhoea respectively were taken to a health care provider.

Steps are already being taken by the Government in this regard. These are implementation of the Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses (IMNCI) strategy, which adopts a holistic approach to the management of the commonest causes of neonatal and childhood mortality - sepsis, acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea, measles and malaria, all compounded by malnutrition. IMNCI shall be implemented throughout the country in a phased manner. In addition, thrust is being given to ensure institutional deliveries and trained health personnel on essential newborn care so that skilled attendance at birth is available and all newborns receive specialized care. Efforts to deliver new born care, both facility based as well as home based, are being made. Micronutrient supplementation with Vitamin A, Iron Folic Acid and Zinc, Infant and Young Child Nurtition are being stressed. Immunization is one of the major thrust areas of the ongoing Reproductive & Child Health Programme. The National Rural Health Mission, launched in April, 2005 for a period of 7 years (2005-2012) is an overarching initiative with a holistic approach which provides multiple strategic additionalities, like provision for health infrastructure up gradation and health care worker for every 1000 population, among others and has envisaged reduction in Infant Mortality and Neonatal Mortality as on of the prime goals to be achieved.